

The Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association was established in 1950 as an international trade association, now composed of approximately 700 independent manufacturers of specialized farm equipment (not including tractors or grain combines) and their supplier companies. FEMA communicates with these member companies using regular publications, faxes and e-mails. The later two of these methods being extremely important in urgent messages of time-sensitive materials, such as surveys or convention information.

Our organization sponsors two conventions annually, the two of which account for as much revenue to the organization as the annual membership dues. To keep these dues low for smaller, independent manufacturers, FEMA relies on subsidization from these conventions.

It would be an undue hardship on the organization and to its members if we are unable to communicate with them by fax without their permission. We would hope that the FCC reconsider its ruling that would not allow this communication method with long-established business relationships.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert K. Schnell
Executive Vice President